

## **VOLUME 124 NOTE-ON MEMBERSHIP POLICY**

*MLR allows current Michigan Law students to become Associate Editors (AEs) by publishing a Note, Book Notice, or Online Essay through the Note-On process.*

### **(1) Eligibility**

- (a) A Note-On applicant must be currently enrolled for credit at Michigan Law School.
- (b) Any student may submit scholarship for publication in *MLR*. In order to be eligible for *MLR* membership, the author must be selected for publication while they have at least two full semesters remaining at the Law School to perform AE duties. Applicants with fewer than two remaining semesters at Michigan Law may publish scholarship in the Michigan Law Review through the same submission process described below but may not become members of *MLR*.
- (c) Applicants may be members of other journals during the Note-On process. If an applicant accepts an AE position on *MLR*, the applicant may remain—and is encouraged to remain—a member of another journal. A candidate need not have participated in the Writing Competition to be eligible for *MLR* membership through the Note-On process.

### **(2) The Submission Process and Requirements**

The submission process depends on the type of scholarship:

#### **(a) Notes**

Notes are solicited for publication through a “Call for Submissions” (“Call”) format. The Executive Notes Editor will “open” the Call via announcement to LawOpen approximately two weeks prior to the Call deadline. Notes must be submitted to the Executive Notes Editor via email ([mlr.ene@umich.edu](mailto:mlr.ene@umich.edu)) by 11:59 p.m. on the date of the Call deadline to be considered for that Call.

The *MLR* Notes Office has discretion to set and change Call deadlines throughout the year. Deadlines are posted online at <https://michiganlawreview.org/submissions/> and announced via LawOpen.

Each year, the Notes Office publishes *The Tealbook*, which sets forth *MLR*’s expectations for a Note’s content, format, and style. Note-On applicants must comply with the guidelines in *The Tealbook* prior to submitting their Notes. *The Tealbook* will be attached to Call announcement emails sent to LawOpen. Students may also request a copy by emailing the Executive Notes Editor ([mlr.ene@umich.edu](mailto:mlr.ene@umich.edu)).

An applicant may submit only one Note to each Call. Applicants are discouraged from submitting to more than three consecutive Calls; we encourage authors to take the time

necessary to meaningfully integrate feedback. A Note must be entirely the author's own work. The applicant may receive feedback and guidance from faculty members and/or peers, including mentors in other journals. The Notes Office strongly encourages applicants to keep submissions under 15,000 words, including footnotes.

### **(b) Book Notices**

Selections for Volume 124's Book Review issue will occur on a rolling basis beginning February 3, 2025 until May 16, 2025, with publication scheduled for Spring 2026. For the 2026 issue, the book's publication date should be either 2024 or 2025. Our preference for final reviews is no more than 8,500 words, including footnotes.

The Book Review Editors will accept submissions of full drafts or submissions of a 1–2 page proposal along with a 3–5 page excerpt of a draft. For more information on the difference between these categories of submissions, check our website at <https://michiganlawreview.org/submissions/>.

Book Notices should be submitted to the Executive Notes Editor via email ([mlr.ene@umich.edu](mailto:mlr.ene@umich.edu)).

### **(c) Online Essays**

The *Michigan Law Review Online* publishes short articles and essays as well as timely responses to articles in the print journal of the *Michigan Law Review*. We invite submissions on current areas of legal thought and research, written in a style accessible to a general audience of practitioners and policymakers. Although we strongly prefer submissions between 4,000 and 8,000 words (including footnotes), we review every submission with an open mind. Pieces will be published on a relatively expedited production schedule.

Please email a Word Document of your submission to [mlr.online.moe@umich.edu](mailto:mlr.online.moe@umich.edu), with the subject line "Student Submission for MLR Online."

## **(3) Submission Evaluation**

All submissions will be anonymized before being distributed for evaluation. The Executive Notes Editor will anonymize Notes and Book Notices, and the Managing Online Editor will anonymize Online Essays. The Notes Office will evaluate Notes, the Book Review Editors will evaluate Book Notices, and the Online Office will evaluate Online Essays.

### **(a) Notes**

The Notes Editors will evaluate all Notes based on readiness for publication. Notes considered ready for publication will comply with the guidelines set forth in *The Tealbook*, with particular emphasis on the Readiness for Publication Checklist (included as an Appendix to *The Tealbook*).

If the Notes Office does not accept the submission for publication, it will provide up to one page of commentary summarizing its evaluation and suggesting improvements. Revising a Note in accordance with this commentary in no way guarantees its publication if submitted to a subsequent Call.

If a Note is preliminarily selected for publication, the Notes Office will notify the author and conduct a Full Read of the Note. After the Full Read, the Notes Office will provide the author with recommended and/or mandatory changes. Accepting mandatory changes may be a condition for publication.

### **(b) Book Notices**

The Book Review Editors will evaluate all Book Reviews based on readiness for publication. Reviews considered ready for publication will comply with the guidelines set forth in *The Tealbook*, with particular emphasis on the Readiness for Publication Checklist (included as an Appendix to *The Tealbook*).

The Book Review Office assesses both the quality of the review, and the relevance and timeliness of the book being reviewed. Only books published in 2024–25 are eligible for review. We value reviews of books with a wide-range of subject matter, and have published reviews of fiction. The review should have a legal hook or an element of legal analysis, and should offer a critique or argument based on the book, rather than a simple summary.

If the Book Review Office does not accept the submission for publication, it will provide up to one page of commentary summarizing its evaluation and suggesting improvements. Revising a Review in accordance with this commentary in no way guarantees its publication if submitted to a subsequent Call.

If a Review is preliminarily selected for publication, the Book Review Office will notify the author and conduct a Full Read of the Review. After the Full Read, the Office will provide the author with recommended and/or mandatory changes. Accepting mandatory changes may be a condition for publication.

### **(c) Online Essays**

The Online Editors will evaluate all Online Essays based on quality of analysis, timeliness, and readiness for publication. To be considered timely, Online Essays should either contribute to a current or novel area of legal thought and research or respond to a recent article in the print journal of *Michigan Law Review*. Online Essays considered ready for publication will include footnote citations and substantively comply with the Whitepages of the Bluebook.

If an Online Essay is selected for publication, the Online Office will extend an offer to the author. Upon the author's acceptance, the Online Office will provide the author with recommended and/or mandatory changes. Accepting mandatory changes may be a condition for publication.

#### **(4) *MLR* Membership**

An applicant whose submission is approved for publication and who has two remaining full semesters at the Law School may choose to join *MLR*. The applicant will receive an offer to join *MLR* along with the applicant's notice of approval for publication. If the applicant accepts the offer to join *MLR*, the new member enters as an AE. The new member will join the Volume 125 AE class and participate in orientation in the summer preceding the 2025–2026 academic year. Applicants who become AEs commit to serving on *MLR* for at least two full semesters. The new member will perform *MLR* duties until graduation. *MLR* members accepted through Note-On will not be required to perform *MLR* duties for more than two full terms.

*MLR* will add the accepted applicant's name to the masthead for the *MLR* volume year in which the applicant serves as an AE.